

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel without prejudice claims 5, 12, 17, 24, 29 and 36 and amend claims 1, 13 and 25 as follows.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising a computer program operable to control a computer to process received e-mail messages, said computer program comprising:

(i) filter downloading logic operable to download filter data from a remote source, said filter data specifying a plurality of tests that may be used to identify unwanted e-mail messages;

(ii) e-mail filtering logic operable to receive an e-mail message and to apply said plurality of tests to identify unwanted e-mail messages; and

(iii) unwanted message reporting logic operable to allow reporting to a filter data generator a new unwanted e-mail message received and not identified by said plurality of tests such that said filter data may be updated to identify said new unwanted e-mail message, wherein a received e-mail message identified as a potentially unwanted e-mail message is forwarded to its addressee together with a prompt for said addressee to provide feedback as to whether or not said received e-mail message is an unwanted e-mail message.

2. (original) A computer program product as claimed in claim 1, wherein said e-mail filtering logic uses a scoring algorithm to identify a received e-mail message as a potentially unwanted e-mail message.

3. (original) A computer program product as claimed in claim 2, wherein said scoring algorithm is responsive to identification of predetermined words within said received e-mail message and a message size of said received e-mail message.

4. (original) A computer program product as claimed in claim 2, wherein said scoring algorithm is responsive to an addressee list of said received e-mail message.

5. (cancelled).

6. (original) A computer program product as claimed in claim 5, wherein said potentially unwanted e-mail message is forwarded encapsulated within a markup language document providing voting buttons to allow said addressee to provide said feedback.

7. (original) A computer program product as claimed in claim 1, further comprising test creating logic operable to allow creating of a new test to be added to said tests provided by said filter data.

8. (original) A computer program product as claimed in claim 1, wherein said computer program arranged to receive and process e-mail messages before they reach an associated target e-mail server.

9. (original) A computer program product comprising a computer program operable to control a computer to process received e-mail messages, said computer program comprising:

(i) e-mail filtering logic operable to receive an e-mail message and to apply at least one test to identify a received e-mail message as a potentially unwanted e-mail message; and

(ii) message forwarding logic operable to forward said potentially unwanted e-mail message to its addressee together with a prompt for said addressee to provide feedback as to whether or not said received e-mail message is an unwanted e-mail message.

10. (original) A computer program product as claimed in claim 9, wherein said potentially unwanted e-mail message is forwarded encapsulated within a markup language document providing voting buttons to allow said addressee to provide said feedback.

11. (original) A computer program product as claimed in claim 9, wherein said message filtering logic is operable to add a new test to those applied to said received e-mail messages in dependence upon said feedback.

12. (cancelled).

13. (currently amended) A method of processing received e-mail messages, said method comprising:

- (i) downloading filter data from a remote source, said filter data specifying a plurality of tests that may be used to identify unwanted e-mail messages;
- (ii) receiving an e-mail message and applying said plurality of tests to identify unwanted e-mail messages; and
- (iii) reporting to a filter data generator a new unwanted e-mail message received and not identified by said plurality of tests such that said filter data may be updated to identify said new unwanted e-mail message, wherein a received e-mail message identified as a potentially unwanted e-mail message is forwarded to its addressee together with a prompt for said addressee to provide feedback as to whether or not said received e-mail message is an unwanted e-mail message.

14. (original) A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein at least one of said plurality of tests uses a scoring algorithm to identify a received e-mail message as a potentially unwanted e-mail message.

15. (original) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said scoring algorithm is responsive to identification of predetermined words within said received e-mail message and a message size of said received e-mail message.

16. (original) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said scoring algorithm is responsive to an addressee list of said received e-mail message.

17. (cancelled).

18. (original) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein said potentially unwanted e-mail message is forwarded encapsulated within a markup language document providing voting buttons to allow said addressee to provide said feedback.

19. (original) A method as claimed in claim 13, further comprising creating of a new test to be added to said tests provided by said filter data.

20. (original) A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein said step of receiving occurs before said e-mail messages reach an associated target e-mail server.

21. (original) A method of processing received e-mail messages, said method comprising the steps of:

- (i) receiving an e-mail message and to apply at least one test to identify a received e-mail message as a potentially unwanted e-mail message; and
- (ii) forwarding said potentially unwanted e-mail message to its addressee together with a prompt for said addressee to provide feedback as to whether or not said received e-mail message is an unwanted e-mail message.

22. (original) A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein said potentially unwanted e-mail message is forwarded encapsulated within a markup language document providing voting buttons to allow said addressee to provide said feedback.

23. (original) A method as claimed in claim 21, further comprising adding a new test to those applied to said received e-mail messages in dependence upon said feedback.

24. (cancelled).

25. (currently amended) Apparatus for processing received e-mail messages, said apparatus comprising:

(i) a filter downloadere operable to download filter data from a remote source, said filter data specifying a plurality of tests that may be used to identify unwanted e-mail messages;

(ii) an e-mail filter operable to receive an e-mail message and to apply said plurality of tests to identify unwanted e-mail messages; and

(iii) an unwanted message reportere operable to allow reporting to a filter data generator a new unwanted e-mail message received and not identified by said plurality of tests such that said filter data may be updated to identify said new unwanted e-mail message, wherein a received e-mail message identified as a potentially unwanted e-mail message is forwarded to its addressee together with a prompt for said addressee to provide feedback as to whether or not said received e-mail message is an unwanted e-mail message.

26. (original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein said e-mail filter uses a scoring algorithm to identify a received e-mail message as a potentially unwanted e-mail message.

27. (original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein said scoring algorithm is responsive to identification of predetermined words within said received e-mail message and a message size of said received e-mail message.

28. (original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein said scoring algorithm is responsive to an addressee list of said received e-mail message.

29. (cancelled).

30. (original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 29, wherein said potentially unwanted e-mail message is forwarded encapsulated within a markup language document providing voting buttons to allow said addressee to provide said feedback.

31. (original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 25, further comprising a test creator operable to allow creating of a new test to be added to said tests provided by said filter data.

32. (original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein said apparatus is arranged to receive and process e-mail messages before they reach an associated target e-mail server.

33. (original) Apparatus for processing received e-mail messages, said apparatus comprising:

(i) an e-mail filter operable to receive an e-mail message and to apply at least one test to identify a received e-mail message as a potentially unwanted e-mail message; and

(ii) a message forwarder operable to forward said potentially unwanted e-mail message to its addressee together with a prompt for said addressee to provide feedback as to whether or not said received e-mail message is an unwanted e-mail message.

34. (original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 33, wherein said potentially unwanted e-mail message is forwarded encapsulated within a markup language document providing voting buttons to allow said addressee to provide said feedback.

35. (original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 33, wherein said message filter is operable to add a new test to those applied to said received e-mail messages in dependence upon said feedback.

36. (cancelled).